

## Fossil Frenzy

NEW!

Evidence of life from millions of years ago can be found throughout Indiana's streams. Join us on an expedition to search for prehistory beneath our feet. Expect a short introduction on what to look for followed by a hike (about two miles round trip) to Griffy Creek to scour the fossil beds. Bring drinking water and wear comfortable, water-resistant footwear.

**F 8/9 • 6–7:30 p.m. • Register by 8/5 • 240008-A**  
**Sa 8/10 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Register by 8/5 • 240008-B**  
**\$4/in-city, \$5/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.**

## Nature Sounds

The Nature Sounds series combines a live, acoustic performance by local musicians with an educational nature presentation about the sounds made and found in all of our outdoor spaces.

**Fridays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.**  
**FREE • Bring your own seating.**

**April 12 • Lower Cascades Park**  
**Nature topic: Good Vibrations**  
**Musical guest: Janiece Jaffe**

Be immersed in the reverberations of nature as we dip into the use of vibrations, pitch, cadence and crescendo to communicate and to survive. From the smallest mosquito to the largest whale, the animal kingdom sings to us every day. Janiece Jaffe will demonstrate sound meditations using crystal and Tibetan bowls, and her voice.

**May 17 • Rev. Ernest D. Butler Park**  
**Nature topic: From Music to Medicine**  
**Musical guest: Lara Weaver**

Follow along from the trees to the flowers, knowledge of their healing powers, oral histories passed over hours and hours. Experience the healing properties of the natural world, from the medicinal properties of leaves and bark to the healing power of music, rhythm and sound. We will learn of the healing properties of rhythm with percussionist, Lara Weaver.

**For more information, contact Crystal Ritter at 349-3725 or [ritterc@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:ritterc@bloomington.in.gov).**

**For weather-related updates, call the Community Events Hotline at 812-349-3754.**

## Roving Naturalist

Visit one of our naturalists at the Bloomington Community Farmers' Market on the first and third Saturdays of each month of the Market season. We cover a variety of topics and have information and activities for all ages. Stop by to ask a question, observe a critter, or gather information. Our Roving Naturalists are also available for private natural resource programs.

**For more information, contact Elizabeth Tompkins at 812-349-3759 or [tompkine@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:tompkine@bloomington.in.gov).**

## Volunteer to Maintain our Natural Spaces



Many volunteer projects are available for individuals and groups to help maintain and restore some of Bloomington's most scenic natural areas.  
**Visit [bloomington.in.gov/parksvol](http://bloomington.in.gov/parksvol).**

## Nature and the Outdoors Summer 2019



Price is per person. Children under age 12 yrs. must be accompanied by a registered adult.  
Activities may be both inside and outside, so please dress for the weather.



Volunteer Opportunity



Heart-Healthy Program

## Griffy Lake Nature Preserve

### Boathouse, 3300 N. Headley Rd.

Scenic woodlands teeming with wild flora and fauna surround the 109-acre Griffy Lake at this 1,200-acre nature preserve. Swimming is prohibited. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has stocked the lake with bluegill, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, channel catfish, and crappie. Rowboat, kayak, canoe, and stand up paddleboard rentals are available seasonally at the Griffy Lake boathouse.

**To protect wildlife and visitors, all dogs must remain leashed while in the preserve. Nearby Ferguson Dog Park accommodates dogs off-leash. For more information, call 349-3700.**

**Catch the wave of stand up paddleboards and glide across the water ... or experience the peace and freedom of paddling a kayak or canoe!**



### Griffy Lake Rental Fees

#### Canoe/Kayak/Rowboat/SUP Rental

(Two-hour limit on holidays/weekends) .....\$8/hour

**10-Rental Pass** ..... \$70

Available for purchase at the boathouse during normal business hours.

Groups wishing to make boat rental reservations Monday through Friday may do so by calling Elizabeth Tompkins at 349-3759. We do not reserve boats on weekends or holidays.

#### Privately owned boat launch fees: \$70/season, \$7/day

Boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors only.

**Boathouse hours:** **April and October:** Saturday and Sunday only, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.  
**May–August:** Daily, 8 a.m.–8 p.m.  
**September:** Daily, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.  
**November–March:** Closed

**Boathouse phone:** **812-349-3732**

**Griffy Lake Trails:** Trail guides are available online and at the Griffy Lake boathouse. Please respect this fragile environment by remaining on the marked trails. Mountain biking, horseback riding, and off-road vehicles are strictly prohibited.

**AMENITIES:** Seasonal restrooms and picnic tables next to boathouse

**PARKING:** Available by the boathouse

**TRAILS:** 10+ miles total, wood chip and natural:  
Wetlands Trail .3 miles, Nature Trail .4 miles (loop),  
Griffy Creek Trail 1.5 miles, Hiking Trail 1.6 miles (loop)

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Accessible canoe and kayak launch

#### Eco Outpost:

Looking for a fun way to interact with the great outdoors? Visit the Eco Outpost, a hands-on place to explore nature. Check out our display of natural objects like fossils, pine cones, and seashells, and learn how you can earn Eco Bucks that can be traded for any of the objects in the Outpost's collection. Borrow an Explorer Backpack and take a fun-filled trek through the woods or your own backyard. The Eco Outpost is open during boathouse hours.

#### Explorer Backpack Program:

Stop by the Eco Outpost at the Griffy Lake boathouse and borrow an Explorer Backpack to help you discover the wonders of nature around Griffy Lake. The backpack is filled with activities and guides that will help you and your family explore the wildlife, plants, and natural features of Griffy Lake. Backpacks are free to use and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
Parks and Recreation

**For more information, call Elizabeth Tompkins at 812-349-3759 or email [tompkine@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:tompkine@bloomington.in.gov). Register at [bloomington.in.gov/parks](http://bloomington.in.gov/parks) or at the Parks and Recreation office, City Hall, 401 N. Morton St., Ste. 250.**

## Pop-Up Programs

Watch for pop-up programs throughout the summer. Paddle at Griffy after hours, hike to vistas and valleys with a naturalist, and flex your mental muscle with challenging scavenger hunts. Follow us on social media to get in the loop.

## SNAYL Day

Whether you own a 1/4 acre or 100 acres, your land can be habitat for an amazing assortment of native plants and animals. Join us for a fun and enlightening day at the annual Sustaining Nature and Your Land (SNAYL) Day. SNAYL Day is an outreach of Monroe County-Identify and Reduce Invasive Species (MC-IRIS) to help landowners gain the knowledge and skills to create resilient native habitats free of invasive species.

**Sa 5/18 • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
**FREE • For all ages.**  
**City Hall, 401 N. Morton St.**

## Night Paddle

Experience an evening of peace and serenity on Griffy Lake during the full moon. Navigate the lake, take deep breaths of fresh air, and watch the night sky light up the water. Each participant must register. Watercraft, paddles and life jackets are provided. Children age 14 yrs. and younger must be accompanied by a registered adult. Bring a flashlight to help you navigate back to your vehicle once you return to dry land.

**Sa 5/18 • 8:30–10 p.m. • Register by 5/16 • 240002-A**  
**M 6/17 • 9–10:30 p.m. • Register by 6/16 • 240002-B**  
**Tu 7/16 • 9–10:30 p.m. • Register by 7/15 • 240002-C**  
**Th 8/15 • 8:30–10 p.m. • Register by 8/14 • 240002-D**  
**Sa 9/14 • 7:30–9 p.m. • Register by 9/12 • 240002-E**  
**Su 10/13 • 7–8:30 p.m. • Register by 10/10 • 240002-F**  
**\$8/in-city, \$9/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.**

## Canoe Find It?

For boating and nature enthusiasts alike! Learn basic boater safety and tips before heading onto the water. Practice paddling techniques before beginning a leisurely scavenger hunt that highlights various points of interest around Griffy Lake. Collect points for a chance to win prizes! Please bring a water bottle and dress for the weather as we explore this popular nature preserve from the water. Boats, paddles, and pfd's will be provided. Children under age 14 yrs. must be accompanied by a registered adult. Instructor: Becky Jania

**Su 5/19 • noon–2 p.m. • Register by 5/13 • 240003-A**  
**\$10/in-city, \$12/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.**

## Build-a-Greenhouse

Get a jump on your own home gardening! Learn how to start germinating seeds indoors by constructing your own mini greenhouse out of recycled materials. This is a way to observe firsthand the life cycle of a plant, and to explore the importance of sun, soil, water, and space for garden growth. Everyone will leave with at least one completed greenhouse, including soil and vegetable seeds to take home and watch grow. Instructor: Becky Jania

**Sa 5/25 • Noon–1 p.m. • Register by 5/20 • 240001-A**  
**\$5/in-city, \$6/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Bryan Park, 1001 S. Henderson St.—North Shelter**

## Hoosier Riverwatch Certification Workshop

Learn to help monitor and maintain water quality in the streams that run through our communities. This workshop, brought to you in partnership with Monroe County Parks and Recreation and City of Bloomington Utilities, teaches water quality monitoring methods that include physical assessment, biological sampling, and chemical testing. Participants will be certified to perform simple tests and contribute to a statewide water quality database. No previous experience with water quality monitoring is needed. Bring a sack lunch and drinking water. To register, contact Monroe County Parks and Recreation at 812-349-2800 or 501 N. Morton St., Suite 100. Participants must attend both sessions to obtain certification.

**M 6/3 and 6/10 • 6–9 p.m.**  
**FREE • For ages 16 yrs. and up.**  
**Karst Farm Park, 5200 W. Airport Rd.**



## Get Outdoors Day

Stop by the Plaza in front of City Hall during the Bloomington Community Farmers' Market to learn about opportunities to get outdoors. Give outdoor equipment a test run, play games, and pick up maps for the area's best hiking spots.

**HOOSIER**  
**National**  
**Forest**

**Sa 6/15 • 9 a.m.–noon**  
**FREE • For all ages.**  
**City Hall, 401 N. Morton St.**

**NEW!**

Passport  
to Play

## Bug Fest

Learn all about amazing insects at Bloomington's seventh annual Bug Fest! Handle cool insects, make a craft, and participate in mealworm races. There will be speakers and information booths on a variety of buggy topics. This event is a collaboration of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, Monroe County Parks and Recreation, The WonderLab Museum, Purdue Extension office, and Hilltop Gardens at Indiana University.

**Sa 6/22 • 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
**FREE • For all ages.**  
**Hilltop Gardens at Indiana University, 2367 E. 10th St.**



## Griffy Glow Float

Explore Griffy Lake from the water at night with the added effect of glow sticks to illuminate your boats and paddle! Paddle on your own, or float alongside a naturalist to discuss local nocturnal wildlife. Each participant must register. Watercraft, paddles and life jackets are provided. Children age 14 yrs. and younger must be accompanied by a registered adult. Bring a flashlight to help you navigate back to your vehicle once you return to dry land. Instructor: Becky Jania

**W 6/26 • 9–10:30 p.m. • Register by 6/19 • 240004-A**  
**\$8/in-city, \$9/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.**

## Nature Hike

Take a hike through the fields and forests in our city parks. An experienced naturalist will guide you on hikes in parks throughout the city. We'll explore unique features and identify what's green and growing. Sign up for one or for all sessions. Dress for the weather and prepare for a moderate hike.

**Winslow Woods Park, 2120 S. Highland Ave.**  
**Su 6/30 • 11 a.m.–noon • Register by 6/24 • 240005-A**  
**RCA Community Park, 1400 W. RCA Park Dr.**  
**Su 7/28 • 11 a.m.–noon • Register by 7/22 • 240005-B**  
**Miller-Showers Park, 1500 N. College Ave.**  
**Su 8/25 • 11 a.m.–noon • Register by 8/19 • 240005-C**  
**\$3/in-city, \$4/non-city • For all ages.**

## Bushcraft Basics

Whether you are headed out for a day hike or a week-long expedition, you'll find many things you can use to survive in the wilderness. Learn the four Ws to consider when selecting a campsite, and tips to survive in the wild including packing, trapping, and foraging techniques. Come prepared to get your hands dirty during this active hike on the Griffy Lake trails. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle. Instructor: Becky Jania

**Sa 7/20 • 10 a.m.–noon • Register by 7/13 • 240006-A**  
**\$8/in-city, \$9/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Griffy Lake Nature Preserve,**  
**3300 N. Headley Rd.—Meet at boathouse.**

**NEW!**

## Mushroom Foray

Mushroom season does not end with morels! Learn the important role played by wild fungi, as well as how to identify and harvest different mushroom species. Find out where to search for and how to prepare the many edible wild mushrooms our environment provides. The program begins with a brief introduction to common and easy-to-identify edible mushrooms, followed by a hike to search for edible fungi. Dress for the weather, and prepare for moderate hiking. Instructor: Becky Jania

**Su 7/21 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Register by 7/15 • 240007-A**  
**\$4/in-city, \$5/non-city • For all ages.**  
**Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.**

Passport  
to Play



**Earn prizes this summer as you explore and play your way through Bloomington Parks and Recreation!**

Pick up your passport, and take it with you to Bloomington Parks and Recreation parks, events, programs, and camps. Have a staff member initial the corresponding page in the passport. Check-ins will be held multiple times throughout the summer for you to show us your passport and redeem for prizes! Pick up your free passport at the Banneker Community Center, the Allison-Jukebox Community Center, Twin Lakes Recreation Center, and the Parks and Recreation office in City Hall. Not only do you get credit for participating in Bloomington Parks and Recreation programs, but also for your play time and exercise, and other healthy activities like trying a new fruit or vegetable. **For more information contact Jess Klein at [kleinj@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:kleinj@bloomington.in.gov).**

City of Bloomington, IN - Parks and Recreation

[btownparks](https://www.instagram.com/btownparks)

**NEW!**